(Value in Rs. Crores)

Year	Target	Exports (Provisional)
1988-89	1650	1802
1989-90	2200	2863
1990-91	3400	3549

(Source: Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics)

It would be observed from the above that the achievement exceeded the targets.

(d) The Engineering Export Promotion Council has set itself a target of Rs. 5000 crores for exports during 1991-92.

Child Marriages

5333. DR. G.L. KANAUJIA:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of child marriages registered during 1989-90, 1990-91 and this year upto July, 1991 State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether there has been an increase in child marriages in some of the States;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what stringent measures have been taken or are proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c). The information is not readily available. The same will be collected from the State Governments/ Union territory administrations and will be laid on the table of the House.

(d) The Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929, was amended in 1978 with a view to provide that offences under the Act shall be cognizable for the purpose of investigation and for all matters other than matters referred to in section 42 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (arrest on refusal to give name and residence) and the arrest of a person without a warrant or without an order of the magistrate. No further stringent measures are contemplated at present in this regard.

Diversion of Borrowings By States for Financing Consumption Expenditure

5334. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States which have allegedly diverted their borrowings for financing the consumption expenditure during the last three years; and

(b) the steps taken by the Union Government to contain the trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) and (b). The required information is being collected from

the State Governments and will be placed on the Table of the House as early as possible.

Supply of Gold to Exporters of Gold Jewellery

5335. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Bank of India has stopped the supply of gold to exporters of gold Jewellery; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken by the Government to resume the supply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). There was temporary suspension of supply of gold by India Government Mint, Bombay to the State Bank of India for about 4 weeks during July-August, 1991 for some administrative reasons. Supply of gold has since been resumed with effect from 19th August, 1991.

Export of Steel Products

5336. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export of steel products increased during April-June, 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which export and production of steel increased in comparison to the last two years; and

(d) the target fixed for the remaining months of the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Authentic data on steel exports has not yet been published by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta. Available data on exports of steel by main producers (i.e. SAIL and TISCO) during the period April-June, 1991 compared to the corresponding periods over the last two years is as follows:

Exports by Main Producers (SAIL & TISCO) (April-June)

Financial year (April-June)	Quantity (in tonnes)
1989-90	22,670
1990-91	59,400
1991-92	85,250

(c) Exports by SAIL and TISCO during April-June, 1991 increased by 43.5% and 276% over the corresponding periods of 1990-91 and 1989-90 respectively. Total production of finished steel in April-June, 1991 increased by about 11.5% and 13.9% over the corresponding periods of 1990-91 and 1989-90 respectively.

(d) The Working Group on Iron & Steel for the 8th Plan had projected a possible